Radio H.F. Internet Newsletter

Volume 6, Number 2

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THE RADIO H.F. INTERNET NEWSLETTER
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hfnewsletter@yahoo.com

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Welcome to the February 2004 edition. Montreal has just gone through one of the coldest months of January on record, with weeks of consecutive days of minus double-digit temperatures Celsius. I hope it has been better where you are. We move into February with hopes of spring on the horizon.

We have an excellent selection of material again for you this month, including some information on digital audio broadcasting.

We welcome any new subscribers to the Newsletter. We invite everyone to participate by sending contributions for future editions of the Newsletter.

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Our Monthly Special Zone for February features sites about St. Valentine's Day, the St. Valentine's Day Massacre and, finally, Mardi Gras & Brazilian Carnival.

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THE MONTHLY SURVEY

Last month's survey question was:

Who would be your choice for 2003 Person of the Year?

There didn't seem to be too much interest in this question. Only 20 people responded and only two names received more than one vote each. They were former Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien with 4 votes and U.S. President George Bush with 3 votes.

THIS MONTH'S SURVEY

Let's make this month's survey an easy one with a simple "yes" or "no" answer. There is a lot of talk in the radio industry about satellite and digital audio broadcasting. New equipment is already available on the market. Even some new portable digital receivers are now available. I have included a few links to sites about DAB in this month's Newsletter. So, our question this month is this:

Will you (or have you already) purchase a digital broadcasting capable radio receiver?

If you have already, let us know what equipment you are using and how you like it.

Please send your response, by e-mail, to hfnewsletter@yahoo.com

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THE COMMENTS ZONE

Leo Lalonde, Montreal, Quebec: I do appreciate the newsletters you keep sending me. There is always something interesting to read.

THE CONTRIBUTORS ZONE

Thanks to our 11 contributors for the month of February. Let's hear from more of you next month.

Wilhelm Eilertsen, Oslo, Norway
Robert Ellis, Beaconsfield, Quebec
Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec
Ricky Leong, Brossard, Quebec
Gilles Letourneau, Montreal, Quebec
Richard Sim, Goose Bay, Labrador & Newfoundland
Elmer Standish, Courtenay, British Columbia
Don Thornton, New Jersey
Alex Vegh, Beaconsfield, Quebec
Ron Walsh, Ottawa, Ontario
Ted Wright, Montreal, Quebec

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THE MONTHLY SPECIAL ZONE

HISTORY CHANNEL PRESENTS THE HISTORY OF VALENTINE'S DAY

http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/valentine/main.html

Every February, across the country, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday?

THE ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE

http://www.gambino.com/bio/valentinesday.htm

Learn about the gangland activities behind this black day in history.

THE 31ST ANNUAL ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE

http://my.net-link.net/~rowan/sca/valday/main.html

Want to see the odd things that some people do on St. Valentine's Day? Check out this activity from Kalamazoo, Michigan!

MARDI GRAS NEW ORLEANS

http://www.mardigrasneworleans.com/

No one celebrates Mardi Gras like New Orleans. Here is the official site for this year's events.

BRAZIL CARNIVAL

http://www.brazilcarnival.com/

Carnival in Brazil is one of the world's most famous celebrations. Learn more about it here.

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RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE

KENWOOD TS-480 HX and TS-480 SAT HF/50 MHz Rigs

The new TS-480HX HF transceiver raises the bar on portable performance. Despite its compact dimensions, it delivers an astonishing punch: 200W with a DC 13.8V supply. Yet its separate control panel is perfect for base station use.

Sharing virtually all the same powerful features is the 100W TS-480SAT, except that it boasts a built-in antenna tuner. Whichever model you choose, you can be sure of enjoying the best of both worlds - first-rate communications at home and on the trail.

For more information on this radio, please refer to:
http://www.kenwood.net/indexKenwood.cfm?do=ProductDetails&ProdID=5025&Group=5

This radio and other fine Kenwood products are available from Radio HF. Please contact us for complete details on pricing and availability.

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THE RADIO ZONE

BROADCAST NORTH AMERICA

http://www.broadcastnorthamerica.net

VIA Wilhelm Eilertsen, Oslo, Norway

This is a site dedicated to providing News and Information about the radio industry in North America

UNITED KINGDOM RADIO STATIONS ON THE INTERNET

http://www.radiofeeds.co.uk/

VIA Elmer Standish, Courtenay, British Columbia

The most up to date listing of U.K. radio stations simultaneously broadcasting on the web.

RADIO SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL

http://www.rsi.com.sg/

VIA Gilles Letourneau, Montreal, Quebec

The official site of the shortwave service of Singapore, the site also provides a very good source of news for southeast Asia.

@MEDIUMWAVE

http://www11.brinkster.com/dxer/mw/content.html

VIA Gilles Letourneau, Montreal, Quebec

A collection of links to useful information for the medium wave DXer.

TV DX PHOTO GALLERY

http://members.aol.com/tvdxer/gallery-home.html

VIA Robert Ellis, Beaconsfield, Quebec

30 years of TV DX in photos; an impressive accomplishment

DIGITAL HOME CANADA

http://www.digitalhomecanada.com/

VIA Ricky Leong, Brossard, Quebec

This is a site dedicated to news, product reviews, feature articles, etc. relating to digital technology in Canada. The Forum section includes a discussion board about digital radio in all its forms. Other forums on that site discuss digital (cable/satellite) and high definition television.

DIGITAL RADIO CANADA

http://www.digitalradio.ca/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

All you need to know about developments in digital audio broadcasting in Canada. The site has general news and information, info on new products, coverage area maps, station finders, etc.

KB2LJJ RADIO MODIFICATIONS DATABASE

http://www.kb2ljj.com/

VIA Richard Sim, Goose Bay, Labrador & Newfoundland

The KB2LJJ radio mods database offers approximately 12,000 Radio Mod's, circuits and manuals and is the premier online site that stores many radios modifications that you can search and download for free.

AMATEUR RADIO STATIONS HEARD VIA ISS

http://www.ariss.net/

VIA Richard Sim, Goose Bay, Labrador & Newfoundland

This site documents Amateur Radio data digipeated by the International Space Station.

THE AMATEUR RADIO LIGHTHOUSE SOCIETY

http://www.arlhs.com/

VIA Ron Walsh, Kingston, Ontario

The only society devoted exclusively to Maritime, marine, and ham radio; lightships and lighthouses

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RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE

NEW DIGITAL SCANNERS FROM UNIDEN

BC-296-D and BC-796-D

Uniden, the leader in scanning equipment, is proud to announce the arrival of two new digital-capable scanners to their line: the BC-296D Portable, and the BC-796D Mobile.

The BC296D digital handheld scanner is APCO 25 capable with 1000 channels, 10 banks, 10 priority channels and continuous band coverage from 25 MHz. to 1.3 GHz (excluding cellular). More information is available on the following web page:

http://www.uniden.com/productpop/00_productpop.cfm?prd_code=BC296D

The BC796D digital capable mobile/base scanner is APCO 25 capable with 1000 channels, 10 banks, 10 priority channels and continuous band coverage from 25 MHz. to 1.3 GHz (excluding cellular). More information is available on the following web page:

http://www.uniden.com/productpop/00_productpop.cfm?prd_code=BC796D

These and other Uniden scanners, accessories and other products are available through Radio HF. Please contact Radio HF for pricing details.

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THE GENERAL ZONE

AMERICAN DAILY

http://www.americandaily.com/index.php

VIA Don Thornton, New Jersey

A conservative news and commentary website.

BUSH FLASH

http://www.bushflash.com/

VIA Elmer Standish, Courtenay, British Columbia

Web master Eric Blumrich writes of his site "Somewhere in the middle of March, moved by the anger and frustration I felt at the unelected government that currently runs the show here in the United States, I created a little piece of flash called antiwar2. Within days, it had been featured on Buzzflash. The next thing I knew I was getting hundreds of e-mails, and my web server was overloaded to the point that I had to move it to a new host.
Since then, I've been creating further animations, and building a new site to house them."

SPACE WEATHER CANADA

http://www.spaceweather.gc.ca/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The Canadian Space Weather Forecast Centre in Ottawa is operated by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), with support from the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). It is a Regional Warning Centre (RWC) of the International Space Environment Service (ISES, formerly IUWDS). The ISES global network monitors a variety of parameters that help to characterize the conditions on the Sun, in space between the Sun and Earth, and on the Earth. The data are used by Regional Warning Centres and others to develop Space Weather warnings and alerts.
NOTE: This is a bilingual site.

SPACE TODAY ON-LINE

http://www.spacetoday.org

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This site covers space from Earth to the edge of the universe, with sections on shuttles, space stations, satellites, astronauts, deep space, and lots more. Originally a magazine started in 1986, it migrated to the Internet in 1994.

SATELLITE TRACKING THREATENED SPECIES

http://sdcd.gsfc.nasa.gov/ISTO/satellite_tracking/birds_home2.html

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

This interesting site, connected with NASA, shows how satellites are being used to track animals, birds, etc.

DRIVE ON MARS

http://www.driveonmars.com/

VIA Alex Vegh, Beaconsfield, Quebec

If you are running a Windows PC with Internet Explorer 5.0 or higher and ActiveX components enabled, you can visit virtual Martian locales and drive the Martian rover over them.

THE I.E.E.E. VIRTUAL MUSEUM

http://www.ieee-virtual-museum.org/index.php

VIA Elmer Standish, Courtenay, British Columbia

A virtual museum created by the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) doesn't sound very interesting. Surprisingly, it is. Learn all about the evolution of sound recording as music and as part of movies. The interactive exhibit has demonstrations to visualize difficult concepts.
Listen to how multi-track sound recording influenced popular music like the Beach Boys. There are exhibits on electricity, microwaves, the history of women in the electrical revolution and more!

U.S.D.A. - MAD COW DISEASE

http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/bse.html

VIA Ted Wright, Montreal, Quebec

It's all over the news, almost every day, but do we really know what it's all about? This page will give you answers to some of your questions.

SNOW ON THE LABRADOR HIGHWAY

http://www.edu.gov.nf.ca/snow/photo.htm

VIA Richard Sim, Goose Bay, Labrador & Newfoundland

If you think your winter has been rough, take a look at this collection of pictures taken this winter on the Labrador Highway as they tried to open the road recently that had been closed all winter.

MONTREAL HISTORY LINKS

http://www.geocities.com/ericsquire/montreal.htm

VIA Richard Sim, Goose Bay, Labrador & Newfoundland

Hundreds of links to sites about the people, places and history of the city of Montreal.

OLD MAPS

http://oldmaps.free.fr/

VIA Robert Ellis, Beaconsfield, Quebec

The history of road maps in Europe, primarily France, from 1820 to the present. Trains, wagons, trams, bicycles and autos are covered. Loaded with photos of map covers and maps. Even oil company maps are included and searchable by country. Site is in French with a clickable alternative in English. It never fails to amaze me what people will collect with such zeal.

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RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE

NEW FROM THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE:

ARRL Periodicals 2003 on CD-ROM

ARRL's popular journals are available on compact, fully-searchable CD-ROMs. Every word and photo published throughout the year is included!
• QST The official membership journal of ARRL
• NCJ National Contest Journal
• QEX Forum for Communications Experimenters
SEARCH the full text of every article by entering titles, call signs, names--almost any word.
SEE every word, photo (including color images), drawing and table in technical and general-interest features, columns and product reviews, plus all advertisements.
PRINT what you see, or copy it into other applications.
WEB LINKS appearing in any article can be used to launch your existing Web browser to view additional information (feature available for versions beginning with 1996).
System Requirements:
2003, Microsoft Windows 98SE, ME, NT 4.0 with Service Pack 5, Windows 2000, or Windows XP; Macintosh PowerPC, MAC OS software version 8.6(*), 9.0.4, 9.1, or OS X(*) *Some features may not be available due to OS limitations
AVAILABLE NOW! - $27.95 Canadian

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The most complete book about Amateur Radio operating. This book is designed to help you increase your enjoyment and skill.
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Details of new ARRL and RSGB publications can be found at the ARRL website at:
http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=What%27s+New

All A.R.R.L. publications, as well as those of the Radio Society of Great Britain, Radio Amateurs of Canada, etc. are available from Radio H.F. Please contact Radio H.F. for complete details, by e-mail at radiohf@sympatico.ca

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THE FUN & SERVICES ZONE

THE HELP WEB -- A GUIDE TO GETTING STARTED ON THE INTERNET

http://www.imagescape.com/helpweb/welcome.html

VIA Gilles Letourneau, Montreal, Quebec

Here is a website for the beginning internet surfer, a guide to navigating the worldwide web.

GRAND ILLUSION

http://www.grand-illusions.com/index.htm

VIA Elmer Standish, Courtenay, British Columbia

Welcome to Grand Illusions, the site for the enquiring mind, with optical illusions, scientific toys, visual effects, and even a little magic.

FUN TRIVIA

http://www.funtrivia.com/

VIA Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec

The world's largest and oldest trivia website, running as an online community since 1994, Fun Trivia has over 400,000 trivia questions in 3,300 categories, created by over 10,000 different visitors to this site, from over 100 countries around the world. Over 290,000 registered members and 3,000,000 guests have played a quiz. We have served up over 160,000,000 trivia questions in just the last couple of years. Fun Trivia is large.

FONTIFIER

http://www.fontifier.com/

VIA Elmer Standish, Courtenay, British Columbia

Fontifier lets you use your own handwriting for the
text you write on your computer. It turns a scanned
sample of your handwriting into a computer font that
you can use in your word processor or graphics
program, just like regular fonts such as Helvetica.

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RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE

WORLD RADIO TV HANDBOOK -- 2004 EDITION

This respected annual includes: schedules, frequencies
and addresses of shortwave broadcast stations,
organized primarily by country. Also includes a
frequency listing of international shortwave broadcast
stations. This is THE publication for every listener.
Changes for 2004 include: adding more US MW and FM
stations, a new Clandestine and other target
broadcaster section, and a new series of articles on
setting up a receiving station. 58th edition, 688
pages. - $40.00 Canadian
NOW ACCEPTING ORDERS. For complete ordering
information, please contact Radio H.F. at:

radiohf@sympatico.ca

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THE HAMFEST/FLEAMARKET AND SPECIAL EVENTS ZONE

Each month we list upcoming events, including
hamfests, predominantly in Canada. NOTE: All times
quoted are local.
(Compiled by Vernon Ikeda VE2MBS, Pierrefonds, Quebec,
and Radio Amateurs of Canada)

Saturday, February 7
Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club Big Event 26 -
St. Catharines, Ontario
Location: Canadian Auto Workers Hall, 125 Bunting
Road, St. Catharines, ON
Vendors 7 AM - Public 9 AM to 1 PM
Admission $6.00, Tables $20.00 (includes 1 admission)
Talk-in: VE3NRS 147.240 (+)
For tables please call Dave Wilson at 905-262-5588
E-mail: ve3bbn@rac.ca
For all other information call Ron Counsell at
905-688-8137 or e-mail: ve3ndi@rac.ca
Website: http://www.qsl.net/ve3vm

February 28
Northern Vermont Winter Hamfest - ARRL Vermont State
Convention - Milton, Vermont
Location: Milton High School, Route 7, Milton, VT

Time: 8 AM to 1 PM
Vendors: Early Vendors Entrance (via rear door) 6:30
Regular Vendor Entrance (via main door) 8 AM
Admission: $5.00. Under 18 years, free. Canadian money accepted at par from Canadian residents, exact change only. Cash only, no cheques.
Talk-in: 145.150 (-) WB1GQR. Pre-recorded information and announcements on 146.67 MHz on the day of the hamfest.
Information: (802)-879-6589
E-mail at: w1sj@arrl.net
Website: http://www.ranv.org/milton.html

Saturday - February 28
Burlington Spring Fleamarket - Burlington, Ontario
Location: Royal Canadian Legion - 828 Legion Road, Burlington, Ontario
Vendors 7 AM; Public 9 AM to Noon
Admission $6.00; Tables $10.00
Talk-in VE3RSB 147.210 (+)
Information and Table reservations: Ken Robinson, VE3WN at 905-637-0772. Mail reservations and cheques to Ken Robinson at 1389 Olga Drive, Burlington, ON L7S 1L1
E-Mail: va3wn@rac.ca
Website: http://www.barc.ca

Saturday, March 6
UMS Annual Fleamarket - Montréal, Quebec
Location: Centre Roussin, 12125 Notre Dame E, Montréal, QC
Time: Vendors 7 AM - Public 9 AM
Admission: $5.00 Tables $10 Talk-in VE2RXW 146.700(-)
Reservations: 514-521-7765 E-mail: hamfest@ve2ums.ca
Website: http://www.ve2ums.ca
RADIO HF WILL BE THERE

Sunday, March 7
Burnaby Amateur Radio Club Swap Meet - New Westminster, British Columbia
Location: The Royal Westminster Regiment Armories, 530 Queens Avenue, New Westminster, B.C. (Corner of Queens Avenue and Sixth Street)
Vendors: 8:30 AM Public 10 AM to 2:30 PM
Admission: $5.00 per person.
Tables: in advance $20.00 plus admission
Talk-in: VE7RBY 145.350 Mhz (-)
Information and reservations: Bob Kungl VE7KW, 604-524-9177 or e-mail: VE7KW@rac.ca
or Lou Beaubien VE7CGE, 604-291-1569
Website: http://www.qsl.net/ve7bar/

Saturday, March 20
HAMEX 2004 - Brampton, Ontario
Location: Brampton Fall Fairgrounds, Heart Lake Road corner of Old School Road, Brampton, Ontario
Time: Vendors at - Public at 09h00 to 13h00 - Seminars

1300-1800
Talk-in VE3PRC 146.880 (-)
Admission: $6.00 - Tables $25.00/$30.00.
Information: ham-ex@sympatico.ca or 905-453-6096
Website: http://www.peelarc.org

Saturday, March 27
Hamfest Laval-Laurentides 2004 - Laval, Québec
Location: (New Location) Polyvalente Goeorges Vanier,
3995 boul. Lévesque Est, Saint Vincent de Paul
(Laval), Quebec.
Vendors: 7 AM; Public 9 AM
Admission: $5.00 Tables: $10.00
Talk-in: VE2REL 147.315 Mhz (+)
Information and reservations: (514)-708-8033
E-mail hamfest@ve2crl.qc.ca
Website: http://www.ve2crl.qc.ca/hamfest.htm
RADIO HF WILL BE THERE

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*****RADIO H.F. PUBLICITY ZONE*****

The complete ARRL, RSGB, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Amateurs du Quebec Inc. catalogues, and hundreds of other specialty radio communications publications, CD Roms and software are available from Radio H.F.

A complete book catalog can be viewed by going to the Radio H.F. website at http://www3.sympatico.ca/radiohf, under publications, or go directly to the catalog at:

http://www.anarc.org/cidx/radiohf/Cat2003Feb.html

Don't forget the new Radio H.F. Nature Division. Hundreds of books in the fields of birding, animals, plants, etc. are now available. Contact the Radio H.F. Nature Division for a complete listing of the titles currently available.

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THE RESOURCES ZONE

The following is a listing of clubs, groups, and radio broadcasts that I am actively involved in.

THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DX CLUB

CIDX is Canada's national radio monitoring club, serving radio hobbyists since 1962, entering our 42nd year of operation. Our monthly newsletter, Messenger, covers all aspects of the radio monitoring hobby. Our February 2004 edition is now available. Sample copies are available for $2 each, in Canada or the U.S., or $3 overseas. Membership is open to radio hobbyists worldwide. Visit the CIDX website for complete information, as well as special features and website profiles, or for a membership application.

http://www.anarc.org/cidx/

THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO REPORT

The International Radio Report, on CKUT-FM Radio McGill, 90.3 FM in Montreal, is available via the Internet on RealAudio, live streaming, and on the airwaves of CKUT, Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM Eastern (1530 UTC). Celebrating 16 years on the air, co-host Bill Westenhaver and I present a weekly half-hour of news, information and developments in radio broadcasting. Visit the Radio McGill website for full CKUT programming:

http://www.ckut.ca

You may listen to archived editions of the programme through the Radio McGill website, and thanks to the initiative of Ricky Leong, of Brossard, Quebec, you can find the most recent edition of the programme archived at:

http://members.fortunecity.com/crazyaboutradio/

Send your comments or questions to the International Radio Report, by e-mail, to radioreport@yahoo.com

RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL'S MAPLE LEAF MAILBAG

You can hear my bi-weekly "CIDX Report" on The Maple Leaf Mailbag, on Canada's international shortwave broadcaster Radio Canada International, with host Ian Jones. Find the times and frequencies on the new Maple Leaf Mailbag website at:

http://www.rcinet.ca/Scripts/default.asp?s1=Programmes&s2=ProgrammeLangue&s3=15

SPECIAL NOTE TO RCI MAILBAG FANS: A new Yahoo Group for fans of the RCI Maple Leaf Mailbag programme has just been formed. By joining up, you can share information and comments about the programme, plus chat on-line with other members, and even the hosts of the show! The URL is

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mapleleafmailbag/

When you travel abroad, take Canada with you, with Radio Canada International on shortwave.

http://www.rcinet.ca

That is all for this month. Radio H.F. is a mail order, telephone and on line business, with great products, great prices, and personalized service, serving the radio community since 1995. Be sure to check out the Radio H.F. website at

http://www3.sympatico.ca/radiohf

Please feel free to submit any information for the Newsletter by e-mail to hfnewsletter@yahoo.com. All previous editions of the Newsletter can be found at:

http://www.anarc.org/cidx/radiohf/index.html

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Best wishes and 73 from

Sheldon Harvey, VE2SHW
Owner - Radio H.F. - Canada's specialist in radio communications
http://www3.sympatico.ca/radiohf
President-Canadian International DX Club
Canada's national radio monitoring club since 1962
http://www.anarc.org/cidx/

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